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idiomatic English, there is some tendency to forget this. For instance, *humileæ atque ob honestatē remōta* is more truthfully rendered "low and far from respectable," than "vulgar and in bad taste." In giving an idiomatic rendering remote from the close meaning of the words, the beginner should be aided by somewhat full comment showing how the free meaning is developed. Mr. Barss gives admirable examples of such notes in those upon *mūnut* and *dedit verba* on p. 111. This observation reminds me that the general vocabulary is hardly consistent with the word groups as to emphasizing close derivative meanings; see, e. g., *abstinentia*, *adhibeō*, *affābilis*, *coniūrātiō*, *ēscendō*, *monumentum*.

Some of the notes are so sensible or necessary as to deserve special mention, e. g., those on *honestæ*, p. 70; *rārae*, p. 77; *obtumerat, nōbile, quī cum*, parentibus, p. 80; *fūtūrum ut* —, p. 94; *absentī*, p. 101; *quibus*, p. 104; *scelere admissō*, p. 106; *cēterōs*, p. 109. The notes would be more usable if the name of the life commented upon had been carried at the top of the right-hand page as in the text.

A few mistakes have been noted: *Ticinium* for *Ticinum* on p. ix of the introductory matter; the last sentence on the next page is awkward; the statement on p. xiv, that Greece in 479 was "free from dread of Eastern tyranny," is too strong; it was such a dread that cemented the confederacy of Delos in 476. The statement about the Canaanites on p. xvi is misleading; the Phœnicians were Canaanites, but all Canaanites were not Phœnicians. On p. 71, at Greece for in Greece; top of p. 73, "dat. after *præ* in composition" for dat. after a verb compounded with *præ*; p. 75, "*abesset*"; the introductory *dum* here does not mean *until* but *while, so long as*, and the direct form is not *dum absim*, but *dum aberō*; for *dum* in this sense, with a future, see the new Gildersleeve, 569, third example; p. 96, *ōrātiōis* for *ōratiōnis*; p. 104, *eruditus est* for *eruditus sit*; *mercēs*, found in the preface, is not in the vocabulary.

I. B. BURGESS

THE MORGAN PARK ACADEMY

Art and Humanity in Homer. By WILLIAM CRANSTON LAWTON
Macmillan & Co. 75 cents.

THIS inviting little book was written for "earnest men and women" who are beginning the study of Homer in English, and desire a simple and readable introduction. Six of the seven essays which the volume

contains were originally University Extension lectures, the syllabi and bibliography of which are given in an appendix. The book is thus not to be classed with Jebb's standard Introduction to Homer. Only incidental reference is made to such topics as Homeric geography, art, manners, and the Homeric question. The point of view is for the most part the literary and æsthetic. The poems are regarded as works of pure imagination, containing no discoverable transcript of a once existing society, yet, in the large sense, truthful, and portraying with exquisite art lofty types of humanity.

About one-fourth of the book consists of original renderings, mainly in line-for-line hexameter verse, which Mr. Lawton, in a Protean metaphor, asserts to be "a closer *echo* of the Homeric verse than anything else in our rhythmical *armoury*." Pronounced by the translator, these lines were no doubt as musical as they are faithful to the sense of the original, but the reader may have to make several trials at some of them before they will run as hexameters.

While Mr. Lawton has succeeded in his immediate aim, he has at the same time produced a book which teachers of Homer will read with profit, and which, for its graceful discourse on literary themes of perennial charm, should find favor with all lovers of the humanities.

FRANK M. BRONSON

A History of Elementary Mathematics. By FLORIAN CAJORI. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1896. Pp. 304.

SEVERAL attempts have been made within the past few years to set forth, in small compass, the leading facts in the development of elementary mathematics. Hoefer was one of the first in the field, but his *Histoire des Mathématiques*, published some twenty years ago, has never taken a high rank. Ball has recently added to his list a *Primer of the History of Mathematics*, but the work is generally conceded to be unbalanced. Zeuthen's elementary history (in Danish, recently translated into German), relating chiefly to Greek mathematics, is the work of a master, but the want of references and of exactness of detail makes it unsatisfactory. Fink's little *Geschichte der Elementar Mathematik* (Tübingen, 1890) is, perhaps, as satisfactory a work of its kind as has appeared, although it is by no means free from errors, nor is it limited to the elements. The contributions of Tannery, Günther, Loria, Unger, and others, being restricted to special periods or